



July 2017

Dear Friends,

In a previous career, at times I would help at the front desk. The front of our office was all glass looking out to a sidewalk and a parking lot shared by 3 offices. One afternoon I noticed a gentleman walking back and forth on the sidewalk. This happened often and was not unusual, but at second glance I noticed something remarkable. There was a dog standing on the man's shoulders as he paced. He was not holding the dog at all, as his arms hung freely by his sides. The dog was not barking, but quietly stood tall upon the man's shoulders with paws on each side of his head. I stepped out and said, "That is certainly a neat trick your dog is doing." The man stopped, grinned, and said, "This is Eddie and that is his favorite place to be."

Eddie's favorite place was on his master's strong shoulders.

Stop for a moment.

Hold your arms up as a child does to his father.

Picture loving hands lifting you upon a strong lap.

Neither of you say a word.

After comforting arms wrap around you with a big hug,

Imagine that you climb up onto broad shoulders.

He stands.

You stand on his steady, strong shoulders.

You feel safe.

You feel lifted from all the potholes, rocks, twists, and turns below you.

You know all of "it" is there but feel you have risen above it all.

You confidently and quietly move forward together.

Isaiah 30:15, "In quietness and in trust shall be your strength."

Blessings,

Kim Crawford

*Kim Crawford is a Board Certified Chaplain at a hospital in Birmingham, AL. She is available to speak at your local church, civic organization, or community. She has many inspirational stories and experiences to share about God's work in her life. She is also a published children's author, is available to lead special worship services for children's ministries, and is an instructor in Laughter Yoga (stress reduction and coping skills). She may be contacted at psalm40.123@gmail.com or comment on her blog: unveiledanduntangled.com.

"Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God." - Hebrews 13:16